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3 node comprise a first domain, and wherein said step of
4 establishing a communication path further comprises:
5 using a permanent connection between one of said
6 at least one third node within said first domain and one of
7 at least one additional third node within a second domain.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 were previously submitted. New claims 27-38 are hereby submitted. Consequently, claims 1-38 are presently pending.

It is noted for the record that these new claims, especially given the pre-examination status of the Application, are not presented for any reason or reasons related to patentability, including those related to statutory requirements for patentability and/or prior art. Instead, these new claims are intended to provide an additional competitive advantage and varying claim scope.

U.S. Patent Application
Serial No.: 09/764,953
Docket No.: 27943-00410USP1

Applicants respectfully request consideration of this
Application as amended and earnestly solicit an early Notice
of Allowance for claims 1-38.

Respectfully submitted,
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MARKED UP VERSION OF CHANGES TO WRITTEN DESCRIPTION

The paragraph at Page 15, Line 3, has been changed as indicated in the following paragraph:

"In certain embodiment(s), the first node may be realized by a telecommunications node (TN) having both switching intelligence and narrowband switching fabric. The intermediate node or level may be realized by an interworking function (IWF) (e.g., [media] mediation logic (ML)) that involves an emulator providing a standard interface to the TN and an address mapper. The second node may be realized by one or more media gateways (MGs) having broadband switching fabric. Advantageously, the switching intelligence of the TN may be utilized or relied on by the multiple MGs via a mapping of the mapper from a narrowband (e.g., telephony) address space to a broadband (e.g., ATM) address space so as to enable transport of a communication across a broadband network of the MGs using addresses of the broadband address space."

The paragraph at Page 108, Line 18 (and extending onto Page 109), has been changed as indicated in the following paragraph:

"Referring now to FIG. 16, an exemplary tri-level nodal environment implementation in accordance with the present invention is illustrated generally at 1600. A telecommunications node (TN) 1605 (e.g., which may correspond to, for example, a call/connection control node 405 of the embodiment(s) of FIGS. 15 et seq.) is shown connected to a media gateway controller (MGC) 1610 (e.g., which may correspond to, for example, a modified connection control node 410' of the embodiment(s) of FIGS. 15 et seq.). The TN (a.k.a. legacy switch (LS)) 1605 may have a circuit switch such as a GS 615 (not explicitly shown in FIG. 16). The MGC 1610 may include a media gateway (MG) 1615, which may have a packet switch such as an ATM switch 630, and [media] mediation logic (ML) 1620 (e.g., which may correspond to, for example, an IWF 1505 of the embodiment(s) of FIGS. 15 et seq.)."

The original Abstract has been replaced with a substitute Abstract that has been changed as indicated in the following:

"The combination of narrowband applications with broadband transport may be enabled with a tri-level nodal system in which a narrowband node (e.g., a telecommunications node) may provide switching intelligence to the switching fabric of multiple broadband nodes (e.g., media gateways). The switching intelligence is provided via an intermediate node (e.g., [media] mediation logic) that emulates a switch interface for the narrowband node and translates circuit-based addresses/routing instructions to packet-based addresses/routing instructions. This translation equates to a mapping of address(es) in a first address space to address(es) in a second address space in order to utilize the address(es) of the second address space for propagating communications on a broadband transport mechanism."